### Status: Path 1 of [Dialog Information Services via Modem] ### Status: Initializing TCP/IP using (UseTelnetProto 1 ServiceID pto-dialog) Trying 31060000009998...Open Diplob
NP2 Jument
Novo
12/9/2004 DIALOG INFORMATION SERVICES PLEASE LOGON: \*\*\*\*\*\* HHHHHHHH SSSSSSS? ### Status: Signing onto Dialog ENTER PASSWORD: \*\*\*\*\*\* HHHHHHH SSSSSSS? \*\*\*\*\*\* Welcome to DIALOG ### Status: Connected Dialog level 04.20.00D Last logoff: 30nov04 07:49:38 Logon file405 09dec04 13:57:45 \*\*\* ANNOUNCEMENT \*\*\* --Connect Time joins DialUnits as pricing options on Dialog. See HELP CONNECT for information. --SourceOne patents are now delivered to your email inbox as PDF replacing TIFF delivery. See HELP SOURCE1 for more information. --Important Notice to Freelance Authors--See HELP FREELANCE for more information NEW FILES RELEASED \*\*\*Beilstein Abstracts (File 393) \*\*\*Beilstein Facts (File 390) \*\*\*Beilstein Reactions (File 391) \*\*\*F-D-C Gold/Silver Sheet (File 184) \*\*\*BIOSIS Toxicology (File 157) \*\*\*IPA Toxicology (File 153) UPDATING RESUMED RELOADED \*\*\*Toxfile (File 156) REMOVED \*\*\*Textile Technology Digest (File 119) >>> Enter BEGIN HOMEBASE for Dialog Announcements <<< of new databases, price changes, etc. CORE is set ON as an alias for 15,9,623,810,275,624,813,636,621,16,160,148,20,77,35,583 ,2,65,233,99,473,474,475,348,349,347,278,634,256. HILIGHT set on as '\*' KWIC is set to 50. \* \* \* SYSTEM: HOME Cost is in DialUnits Menu System II: D2 version 1.7.9 term=ASCII \*\*\* DIALOG HOMEBASE(SM) Main Menu \*\*\* Information:

Announcements (new files, reloads, etc.)
 Database, Rates, & Command Descriptions
 Help in Choosing Databases for Your Topic

- 4. Customer Services (telephone assistance, training, seminars, etc.)
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- 7. Data Star(R)
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/H = Help /L = Logoff /NOMENU = Command Mode

Enter an option number to view information or to connect to an online service. Enter a BEGIN command plus a file number to search a database (e.g., B1 for ERIC).
?b core

>>> 77 does not exist

>>> 278 does not exist

>>>2 of the specified files are not available

09dec04 13:57:50 User243008 Session D135.1

\$0.00 0.209 DialUnits FileHomeBase

\$0.00 Estimated cost FileHomeBase

\$0.02 TELNET

\$0.02 Estimated cost this search

\$0.02 Estimated total session cost 0.209 DialUnits

SYSTEM:OS - DIALOG OneSearch

File 15:ABI/Inform(R) 1971-2004/Dec 09

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\*File 15: Alert feature enhanced for multiple files, duplicate

removal, customized scheduling. See HELP ALERT.
File 9:Business & Industry(R) Jul/1994-2004/Dec 08

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File 623:Business Week 1985-2004/Dec 08

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File 624:McGraw-Hill Publications 1985-2004/Dec 08

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\*File 624: Homeland Security & Defense and 9 Platt energy journals added Please see HELP NEWS624 for more

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File 160:Gale Group PROMT(R) 1972-1989

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File 148: Gale Group Trade & Industry DB 1976-2004/Dec 09

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File 20:Dialog Global Reporter 1997-2004/Dec 09

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File 35:Dissertation Abs Online 1861-2004/Nov

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File 583:Gale Group Globalbase(TM) 1986-2002/Dec 13

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*File 583: This file is no longer updating as of 12-13-2002.
  File
         2:INSPEC 1969-2004/Nov W4
         (c) 2004 Institution of Electrical Engineers
        2: Alert feature enhanced for multiple files, duplicates
*File
removal, customized scheduling. See HELP ALERT.
  File 65:Inside Conferences 1993-2004/Dec W1
         (c) 2004 BLDSC all rts. reserv.
  File 233: Internet & Personal Comp. Abs. 1981-2003/Sep
         (c) 2003 EBSCO Pub.
*File 233: File 233 is closed (no longer updating).
  File 99:Wilson Appl. Sci & Tech Abs 1983-2004/Oct
         (c) 2004 The HW Wilson Co.
  File 473:FINANCIAL TIMES ABSTRACTS 1998-2001/APR 02
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*File 473: This file will not update after March 31, 2001.
It will remain on Dialog as a closed file.
  File 474:New York Times Abs 1969-2004/Dec 09
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  File 475: Wall Street Journal Abs 1973-2004/Dec 08
         (c) 2004 The New York Times
  File 348: EUROPEAN PATENTS 1978-2004/Nov W04
         (c) 2004 European Patent Office
  File 349:PCT FULLTEXT 1979-2002/UB=20041202,UT=20041125
         (c) 2004 WIPO/Univentio
  File 347: JAPIO Nov 1976-2004/Aug (Updated 041203)
         (c) 2004 JPO & JAPIO
*File 347: JAPIO data problems with year 2000 records are now fixed.
Alerts have been run. See HELP NEWS 347 for details.
  File 634:San Jose Mercury Jun 1985-2004/Dec 08
         (c) 2004 San Jose Mercury News
  File 256:TecInfoSource 82-2004/Nov
         (c) 2004 Info. Sources Inc
      Set Items Description
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>>>Unmatched parentheses
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 or unit)
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         1540989 AUTOMATIC
         1503194 AUTOMATICALLY
         109712 VENDING
         2551114 MACHINE
            8157 VEND
         5542661 DEVICE
         5861388 UNIT
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ter or unit or computer or phone or handheld or hand-held or hand or wearable))
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        2582446 MOBILE
        1511809 TERMINAL
        1509294 MONITOR
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5542661 DEVICE
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         9329618 COMPUTER
         2886762
                 PHONE
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          30060 WEARABLE
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         346263 3 AND ((REMOTE OR PORTABLE OR MOBILE) (5N) (TERMINAL OR
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                  PHONE OR HANDHELD OR HAND-HELD OR HAND OR WEARABLE))
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itter or unit or computer or wireless or phone or handheld or hand-held or hand or wear
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Processed 20 of 27 files ...
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         797522 PORTABLE
        2582446 MOBILE
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?t s6/3,k/1
             (Item 1 from file: 348)
 6/3, K/1
DIALOG(R) File 348: EUROPEAN PATENTS
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01439520
Discount method and device for an automatic vending machine
Rabattzuteilungsverfahren
                           und
                                 Vorrichtung
                                                fur
                                                      einen
                                                              automatischen
    Verkaufsautomaten
Methode d'allocation de rabais et dispositif pour machine de vente
PATENT ASSIGNEE:
  Mars Incorporated, (2654810), 6885 Elm Street, McLean, Virginia
    22101-3883, (US), (Applicant designated States: all)
INVENTOR:
  Lewis, Craig A, 469 Green Hill Lane, Berwyn, Pensylvania 19312, (US)
  Morun, Mark, 416 Chrislena Lane, West Chester, Pensylvania 19380, (US)
LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE:
  Burke, Steven David et al (47741), R.G.C. Jenkins & Co. 26 Caxton Street,
    London SW1H ORJ, (GB)
PATENT (CC, No, Kind, Date): EP 1225548 A2 020724 (Basic)
                              EP 1225548 A3 040922
APPLICATION (CC, No, Date):
                            EP 2002250446 020122;
PRIORITY (CC, No, Date): US 767792 010123
DESIGNATED STATES: AT; BE; CH; CY; DE; DK; ES; FI; FR; GB; GR; IE; IT; LI;
  LU; MC; NL; PT; SE; TR
EXTENDED DESIGNATED STATES: AL; LT; LV; MK; RO; SI
INTERNATIONAL PATENT CLASS: G07F-007/02; G07F-005/16
ABSTRACT WORD COUNT: 35
NOTE:
  Figure number on first page: 1
LANGUAGE (Publication, Procedural, Application): English; English; English
FULLTEXT AVAILABILITY:
Available Text Language
                           Update
                                     Word Count
     CLAIMS A (English)
                           200230
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      SPEC A
                (English) 200230
                                      5457
Total word count - document A
                                      6854
Total word count - document B
                                         0
Total word count - documents A + B
                                      6854
... SPECIFICATION with bonuses or special discounts on particular vending
  items by issuing tokens or coupons based on the consumer's history of
 purchases tracked by the *remote* management system.
   The discount *device* may be implemented to give out pertinent
  information on the use of tokens or coupons with a deposit of a token or
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9329618 COMPUTER 2296315 WIRELESS

The discount \*device\* may be implemented to give out pertinent information on the use of tokens or coupons with a deposit of a token or coupon along with...a soft drink, then a snack coupon may be dispensed to encourage the customer to buy a snack to go with the drink from another \*vending\* \*machine\* that accepts coupons. If a snack has been purchased, then a \*coupon\* may be \*issued\* for purchase of a drink. In addition, the coupon may be redeemable in any \*vending\* \*machine\* capable of validating it, including the \*vending\* \*machine\* that dispensed the coupon.

While various implementations have been described and shown in the drawings, the implementations are merely illustration and not restrictive of the...

(Item 1 from file: 349) 6/3, K/2DIALOG(R) File 349: PCT FULLTEXT (c) 2004 WIPO/Univentio. All rts. reserv. \*\*Image available\*\* 01047162 COOPERATIVE VENDING MACHINE DATA REPORTING RAPPORT DE DONNEES DE DISTRIBUTEUR AUTOMATIQUE COLLECTIF Patent Applicant/Assignee: VENDING MANAGEMENT SERVICES LTD, 25 Norfolk Road, Masterton, NZ, NZ (Residence), NZ (Nationality) Inventor(s): HARDEN Simon, 27 Aktinson Street, Masterton, NZ, Legal Representative: TERRANOVA Steven N (agent), Withrow & Terranova, PLLC, Post Office Box 1287, Cary, NC 27512, US, Patent and Priority Information (Country, Number, Date): Patent: WO 200377212 A2-A3 20030918 (WO 0377212) Application: WO 2003US6781 20030307 (PCT/WO US03006781) Priority Application: US 200293755 20020308 Designated States: (Protection type is "patent" unless otherwise stated - for applications prior to 2004) AE AG AL AM AT AU AZ BA BB BG BR BY BZ CA CH CN CO CR CU CZ DE DK DM DZ EC EE ES FI GB GD GE GH GM HR HU ID IL IN IS JP KE KG KP KR KZ LC LK LR LS LT LU LV MA MD MG MK MN MW MX MZ NO NZ OM PH PL PT RO RU SC SD SE SG SK SL TJ TM TN TR TT TZ UA UG UZ VC VN YU ZA ZM ZW (EP) AT BE BG CH CY CZ DE DK EE ES FI FR GB GR HU IE IT LU MC NL PT RO SE (OA) BF BJ CF CG CI CM GA GN GQ GW ML MR NE SN TD TG (AP) GH GM KE LS MW MZ SD SL SZ TZ UG ZM ZW (EA) AM AZ BY KG KZ MD RU TJ TM Publication Language: English Filing Language: English Fulltext Word Count: 6473 Fulltext Availability: Detailed Description Claims English Abstract ...equipped with a short range communication circuit for uploading vending machine data to passing mobile terminals. The mobile terminals subsequently upload the data to a \*remote\* location through a \*wireless\* communication process, such as through a cellular phone call. Compensation may be provided to the user of the \*mobile\* \*terminal\* and aggregation between \*mobile\* terminals and/or vending machines is contemplated. French Abstract ...distant a travers un procede de communication sans fil, notamment a travers un appel telephonique cellulaire. Une compensation peut etre fournie a l'utilisateur du \*terminal\* \*mobile\* et une agregation envisagee entre les terminaux mobiles et/ou les distributeurs automatiques. Detailed Description machine data to the cellular phone. When the cellular phone subsequently passes into an area with the appropriate cellular service, the cellular places a \*phone\* call to a \*remote\* location and uploads the vending machine data to the \*remote\* location \*computer\*.

[0008] In an exemplary embodiment, the cellular phone may wait until a

non-peak time to send the data to the \*remote\* location. Further, the cellular  $\ensuremath{\text{cellular}}$ 

\*phone\* operator may be compensated for the use of his cellular phone and any calling plan minutes used to relay vending machine data. Various types of compensation are contemplated.

[0009] In another exemplary embodiment, the cellular phone may aggregate vending machine data from multiple vending machines before making the \*phone\* call to the \*remote\* location.

[0010] In still another embodiment, the cellular phone may pass by another

cellular phone, both having vending machine data thereon. The cellular phone with...is an exemplary hardware diagram of a system that implements the present invention;

[0015] Figure 3 is a flow chart illustrating the vending machine to \*mobile\*

\*terminal\* to \*remote\* location processes;

[0016] Figure 4 is an exemplary hardware diagram of an alternate embodiment of the present invention;

[0017] Figure 5 is a flow chart...the present

invention is illustrated in Figure 2. The vending machine 10 communicates over a short range with a short range signal 36 to a \*mobile\* \*terminal\* 40 that passes by the vending machine 1 0. The \*mobile\* \*terminal\* 40 may be a cellular phone, a personal digital assistant, a two way pager, a laptop equipped with a cellular modem, or the like. Such mobile terminals are also sometimes referred to as pervasive computing devices. The \*mobile\* \*terminal\* 40 comprises a short range communication circuit 42 that, in a preferred embodiment, is compatible with the short range communication circuit 38 of the vending 36 may be

almost any environmentally safe signal that has an operative range of approximately five meters or less.

[0031] The \*mobile\* \*terminal\* 40 is also equipped with a long range communication circuit 44 that communicates through a base station 46 to a \*remote\* central \*computer\* 48 at a \*remote\* location via a long range communication signal 50. The long range communication signal 50 may be any number of conventional long range wireless communication signals... SMS) or the like could also be used if needed or desired.

[0032] The process by which the vending machine 1 0 communicates with the \*remote\* central \*computer\* 48 is illustrated as a flow chart in Figure 3.

Specifically, a user, who may be using the vending machine, brings the \*mobile\* \*terminal\* 40 proximate the vending machine 1 0 (block 1 00). Note that

the user need not actually use the vending machine 10, but merely pass within range of the short range communication circuits 38, 42.

[0033] The vending machine 10 and the \*mobile\* \*terminal\* 40 establish a short range communication link (block 102). In an exemplary embodiment, the vending machine 10 periodically sends out an inquiry from the short ...

...relationship set up so that communication according to the protocol may occur. Similar schemes may be used for other protocols. In an alternate embodiment, the \*mobile\* \*terminal\* 40 may initiate the contact, either

through a user command or by periodically polling for short range communicators in the field of the short range communication circuit 42. This may unnecessarily drain the battery of the \*mobile\* \*terminal\* 40, but it is an option.

[0034] The vending machine IO may then verify that the \*mobile\*

\*terminal\* 40

that has responded over the short range communication link is in fact a participant in the cooperative data handling process (block 104). This may0035] The vending machine 10 sends the vending machine data to the \*mobile\* \*terminal\* 40 (block 106). This may be in a burst transmission, encrypted, or otherwise handled so as to achieve an efficient, secure transmission between the vending machine 10 and the \*mobile\* \*terminal\* 40.

The \*mobile\* \*terminal\* 1 0 may include memory as is conventional, and store the vending machine data therein.

[0036] After receiving the vending machine data, the \*mobile\* \*terminal\* 40

establishes a communication link to the \*remote\* central \*computer\* 48 (block 108). This communication link may be done periodically, such as once a day, or ...data was collected

from the vending machine 10. The communication link may be created by placing a phone call to a number associated with the \*remote\* central \*computer\* 48 over a cellular connection or other technique as needed or desired.

However, it is contemplated that the \*mobile\* \*terminal\* 40 will make this

connection with the long range communication circuit 44. Alternatively, the

- \*remote\* central \*computer\* 48 may periodically place a call to the \*mobile\*
- \*terminal\* 40 to establish the link. In yet another embodiment, the \*mobile\*
- \*terminal\* 40 periodically docks with the \*remote\* central \*computer\* 48

establish a communication link. In still another embodiment, the \*mobile\* \*terminal\* 40 is periodically connected to a landline and a communication link is established over a landline rather than wirelessly through the long range communication circuit 44.

[0037] After establishing the communication link between the \*mobile\* \*terminal\* 40 and the \*remote\* central \*computer\* 48, the \*mobile\* \*terminal\* 40 sends the vending machine data to the \*remote\* central \*computer\* 48 (block 1 1 0).

Again, there may be an authentication step (not shown) or the like as needed

or desired. The data may ...proprietary information, and other security measures could be taken if desired. [0038] While not shown, an additional step may be clearing the memory of the \*mobile\* \*terminal\* 1 0 of the vending machine data so that the \*mobile\* \*terminal\* 10 may reuse that memory. Alternatively, the vending machine data may be kept until a time stamp threshold has passed; e.g. when the vending...terminals 40 and report it only once, thereby saving on charges associated with, for example, a cellular phone call. In a first alternate embodiment, the \*mobile\* \*terminal\* 40 may pass a plurality of vending machines 10 and collect vending machine data from each one in turn. Then, when the periodic call is placed to the \*remote\* central \*computer\* 48, all of the vending machine data is ...is met, and then the call is placed.

[0040] For example, if each burst of vending machine data takes seven seconds to transmit to the \*remote\* central \*computer\* 48, then the \*mobile\*

\*terminal\* 40 may collect data from eight vending machines 1 0 before sending the vending machine data to the \*remote\* central \*computer\* 48. Data from eight

vending machines would equal approximately fifty-six seconds of vending machine data to be transmitted. Since cellular calls are usually ...also be associated with the vending machine data, so that regardless of how

many additional vending machines 10 have provided vending machine data to the \*mobile\* \*terminal\* 40, once the data has been resident upon the \*mobile\*

\*terminal\* for a predetermined amount of time, the \*mobile\* \*terminal\* 40 sends the data to the \*remote\* central \*computer\* 48. For example, once the data is twenty hours old, the \*mobile\* \*terminal\* 40 attempts to make a call to the \*remote\* central \*computer\* 48.

[0041] In still another embodiment, illustrated in Figure 4, the data may be sent to the \*remote\* central \*computer\* 48 indirectly. Specifically, the vending

machine 10 sends the vending machine data to the \*mobile\* \*terminal\* 40,

previously described. However, before the \*mobile\* \*terminal\* 40 sends the

vending machine data to the \*remote\* central \*computer\* 48, the \*mobile\*
\*terminal\*

40 comes into close proximity of a second \*mobile\* \*terminal\* 52. Close proximity in this context is within short range communication distance (i.e. less

than five meters). The second \*mobile\* \*terminal\* 52 may comprise a short range communication circuit 54, and a short range communication signal 56 may pass between the two mobile terminals 40, 52.

[0042] The vending machine data may then be transferred to the second \*mobile\* \*terminal\* 52. The second \*mobile\* \*terminal\* 52 may comprise a long

range communication circuit 58 which establishes a long range communication link 60 to the \*remote\* central \*computer\* 48, just as previously described and illustrated in Figures 2 and 3 for a single \*mobile\* \*terminal\* 40 embodiment.

[0043] The process of this multiple \*mobile\* \*terminal\* 40, 52 embodiment is

illustrated in Figure 5. The process begins as earlier described, wherein the \*mobile\* \*terminal\* 40 secures the data from the vending machine 10 (block 150).

Sometime subsequent to securing the vending machine data, the \*mobile\* \*terminal\* 40 comes into close proximity with the second \*mobile\* \*terminal\* 52 (block 152).

[0044] The two mobile terminals 40, 52 ...This periodic polling may be done according to the Bluetooth protocol, the

802.11 protocol, or other standard as previously discussed in the single \*mobile\* \*terminal\* 40 embodiment. Upon receipt of a positive response, a communication link 56 is established. Alternatively, the user may actuate a command in the \*mobile\* \*terminal\* 40 and/ or 52 and cause the \*mobile\* \*terminal\* 40, 52 to poll the surrounding area for a nearby short range communicator.

[0045] Once the communication link 56 is established, the mobile terminals 40, 52 may determine which \*mobile\* \*terminal\* 40, 52 has priority over the other (block 156). This may be done by comparing time stamps as to which \*mobile\* \*terminal\* 40, 52 has the older data and thus needs to send the data to the \*remote\* central \*computer\* 48 sooner. Alternatively, because \*mobile\* terminals

40, 52 may have data from multiple vending machines 10 stored in memory, the \*mobile\* \*terminal\* 40, 52 with the largest amount of data already present in

memory is determined to have priority. In still another embodiment, the \*mobile\* \*terminal\* 40, 52 that has the higher battery charge is determined to have priority. This increases the likelihood that the \*mobile\* \*terminal\* 40, 52 will

be able to contact the \*remote\* central \*computer\* 48. Other schemes for determining priority are also possible.

[0046] After the priority is determined, the data is sent to the \*mobile\*

\*terminal\* 40, 52 with priority (block 158). In the embodiment shown, \*mobile\* \*terminal\* 52 has priority and thus receives the data from the \*mobile\* \*terminal\* 40 over the communication link 56.

[00471 In an alternate embodiment, the mobile terminals 40, 52 exchange data so that both mobile terminals 40, 52 have both sets of data. This redundancy may increase the likelihood that the \*remote\* central \*computer\* 48 receives the data, but may also put a strain on the networks that convey the information, such as the PLIVIN. Also, the \*remote\* central \*computer\* 48 would need some way to determine that the data is duplicative so that it is not accounted for twice. This may be done with...a unique ID and/or date/time stamp of the vending machine 1 0 to which it pertains.

[0048] After the exchange of information, the \*mobile\* \*terminal\* 52 that has priority, and has all the data, contacts the \*remote\* central \*computer\* 48 (block

160). This may be done by placing a call over the PLMN through a long range communication link 60 or other equivalent technique as described above with reference to block 108 above.

[0049] The data is then sent to the \*remote\* central \*computer\* 48 (block

162). Again, the establishment of the communication link 60 may be done periodically or after a certain time threshold has expired or the participation. If a user desires to allow the cellular phone to participate in the system of the present invention, the user's \*mobile\* \*terminal\* 40 is configured to recognize short range communications

from the vending machine 10 and other mobile terminals 40, 52 as discussed herein. A process by...

...00511 Initially, potential users are identified (block 200). This may be done by surveys, questionnaires, or the like. For example, when a user buys a \*mobile\* \*terminal\* 40, the vendor may include a brochure for the service ...The users accept the solicitation (block 204) and agree to participate in the incentivized plan to facilitate vending machine data collection

and transmission to the \*remote\* central \*computer\* 48. The users may download software to their mobile terminals 40 so as to provide the present functionality and be assigned a unique identifier in the process. Alternatively, their unique identifier may be their \*mobile\* identification number, a \*phone\*

number associated with the \*mobile\* \*terminal\* 40, or the like as needed or

desired. The software transfer may be done wirelessly, through a diskette, or the like as needed or desired.

[0054] The users that have agreed to participate then facilitate the transmission of the vending machine data to the \*remote\* central \*computer\* 48

by periodically visiting the vending machines 10 (block 206). In some instances, this may be part of their daily routine as they purchase a... preferred embodiment, multiple users would interact with the vending machine 1 0, thus increasing the likelihood that the vending machine data was passed to a \*mobile\* \*terminal\* 40 for later transmission to the \*remote\*

central \*computer\* 48,

[0055] In exchange for this facilitation and the use of the mobile terminals 40, the users may receive a credit (block 208). In acheck, or the like. In a

second embodiment, this credit may comprise a \*coupon\* that is \*issued\* to the

user and that may be redeemed for the purchase of goods. In an exemplary embodiment, the coupon is for goods sold in the \*vending\* \*machine\* 1 0. Rebate  $\frac{1}{2}$ 

coupons may also be provided. In a third embodiment, the users receive a credit in the form of an electronic discount on passed the threshold a

free item is provided from the vending machine. For example, after ten transmissions to the \*remote\* central \*computer\* 48, a soda is dispensed for the user. To this end, the unique identifier discussed above may be used. Additionally, the authorization sequences used above...

...to the proper user.

[0056] Depending on the nature of the credit, the vending machine 1 0 may have to do the verification. Alternatively, the \*remote\* central \*computer\* 48 may

do the verification and provide the \*mobile\* \*terminal\* 40 with a code that

authorizes the credit in a vending machine 10. Therefore, \*remote\* central

\*computer\* 48 may reference a database to provide this credit.
Alternatively, the \*mobile\* \*terminal\* 40 may reference a database associated with the \*remote\* central \*computer\* 48 as needed or desired. Other arrangements for the credit are also possible.

[0057] Upon receipt of the credit, the user may redeem the credit...

## Claim

- 1 A \*mobile\* \*terminal\*, comprising:
- a short range communication circuit that wirelessly collects vending machine data from a vending machine; and
- a long range communication circuit that wirelessly sends said vending machine data to a remote location through a base station.
- circuit comprises a Bluetooth communication circuit.
- 3 The \*mobile\* \*terminal\* of claim 1 , wherein said long range communication circuit comprises a cellular communication circuit.
- 4 The \*mobile\* \*terminal\* of claim 1, wherein said short range communication circuit comprises an IEEE 802.11 compatible communication circuit.
- 5 The \*mobile\* \*terminal\* of claim 1, wherein said short range communication circuit collects said vending machine data from the vending machine indirectly, through a second \*mobile\* \*terminal\*.
- 6 The \*mobile\* \*terminal\* of claim 3, wherein said cellular communication circuit sends said vending machine data to the remote location by placing a call.
- 7 A communication system, comprising:
- a vending machine, comprising a first short range communication circuit; and
- a \*mobile\* \*terminal\*, comprising:
- a second short range communication circuit, selectively communicating with said first short range communication system to secure vending machine data from said vending machine...system of claim 7, wherein said first and second short range communication circuits comprise Bluetooth modules.
- 9 The communication system of claim 7, wherein said \*mobile\* \*terminal\* comprises a cellular \*phone\*.
- 1 0. The communication system of claim 7, wherein said long range communication circuit comprises a link to the PLIVIN.
- 1 1. The communication system day.
- 12 The communication system of claim 7, wherein said \*mobile\* \*terminal\* accrues credits for communicating said vending machine data from said vending machine to the remote location.

13 The communication system of claim 7, further comprising a second vending machine, said \*mobile\* \*terminal\* collecting vending machine data from

said second vending machine and combining the vending machine data from said second vending machine with the vending machine data...

#### .said

vending machine prior to sending the vending machine data to the remote location.

- 14 A communication system for communicating vending machine data to a \*remote\* location through a \*wireless\* communication network, comprising:
- a vending machine comprising a first short range communication circuit;
- a first \*mobile\* \*terminal\* comprising a second short range communication circuit;
- a second \*mobile\* \*terminal\* comprising a third short range communication circuit and a long range communication circuit; said vending machine sending the vending machine data to said first \*mobile\* \*terminal\* from said first short range communication circuit to said

second short range communication circuit;

said first \*mobile\* \*terminal\* sending the vending machine data to said
second \*mobile\* \*terminal\* from said second short range communication
circuit to

said third short range communication circuit;

said second \*mobile\* \*terminal\* sending the vending machine data to a remote location through said long range communication circuit.

- 15 The communication system of claim 14, wherein said short...
- ...circuits are selected from the group consisting of: Bluetooth modules and 802.11 compatible circuits.
  - 16 The communication system of claim 14, wherein said second \*mobile\* \*terminal\* sends the vending machine data to a \*remote\* location by placing a \*phone\* call to the \*remote\* location.
  - 17 The communication system of claim 14, wherein said second \*mobile\* \*terminal\* collects vending machine data from a plurality of vending machines prior to sending the vending machine data to a remote location.
  - 18 The communication system of claim 14, wherein said second \*mobile\* \*terminal\* sends the vending machine data through the PLMN.
  - 19 An incentivized system for reporting vending machine data to a remote location, comprising:
  - a vending machine, comprising a first short range communication circuit and data;
  - a \*mobile\* \*terminal\*, comprising a second short range communication circuit and a long range communication circuit;
  - said \*mobile\* \*terminal\* receiving the vending machine data from said vending machine through said first and second short range communication circuits and passing the vending machine data to a remote location for further
  - processing through said long range communication circuit; and said \*mobile\* \*terminal\* having a credit associated therewith in exchange for passing the vending machine data to the remote location.
  - 20 The system of claim 19, wherein said...the group consisting of a Bluetooth module and a module based on the IEEE 802.11 standard.
    26 The system of claim 19, wherein said \*mobile\* \*terminal\* is a cellular \*phone\*.
  - 27 The system of claim 19, wherein said credit is provided monthly.

- 28 The system of claim 19, wherein said credit is stored in said \*mobile\* \*terminal\*.
- 29 The system of claim 19, wherein said credit is stored in said vending machine.
- 30 A method of incentivizing relay communications between a vending machine and a remote location, said method comprising: uploading vending machine data from the vending machine to a \*mobile\* \*terminal\* associated with a third party; receiving the vending machine data from the \*mobile\* \*terminal\* at the \*remote\* location via a long range \*wireless\* communication; providing a credit to the third party in exchange for sending the vending machine data.
- 31 The method of claim 30, wherein providing a...is reached and then providing a free good for the credit.
- 35 The method of claim 30, wherein receiving the vending machine data from the \*mobile\* \*terminal\* at the \*remote\* location via a long range \*wireless\* communication comprises receiving a \*phone\* call from the \*mobile\* \*terminal\* over the PLMN.
- 36 The method of claim 30, wherein arranging to upload vending machine data from the vending machine to a \*mobile\* \*terminal\* associated with a third party comprises wirelessly uploading the data to the \*mobile\* \*terminal\*.
- 37 The method of claim 36, wherein wirelessly uploading the vending machine data to the \*mobile\* \*terminal\* comprises uploading the vending machine data with a Bluetooth module.
- 38 The method of claim 30, further comprising receiving from the \*mobile\* \*terminal\* vending machine data from a plurality of vending machines.
- 39 A method of communicating, comprising: determining that a \*mobile\* \*terminal\* is proximate a vending machine; uploading vending machine data from the vending machine to the \*mobile\* \*terminal\* via a short range communication circuit; receiving, at a remote location, the vending machine data from the \*mobile\* \*terminal\* over a long range communication circuit.
- 40 The method of claim 39, wherein determining that a \*mobile\* \*terminal\* is proximate a vending machine comprises establishing a short range communication loop via one of the modules selected from the following group consisting of: a Bluetooth module and an IEEE 802. 11 module.
- 41 The method of claim 39, wherein uploading vending machine data from the vending machine to the \*mobile\* \*terminal\* via a short range communication circuit comprises uploading the vending machine data via a communication circuit selected from the group consisting of: a Bluetooth communication
- ...an IEEE 802.11 compatible communication circuit.
  - 42 The method of claim 39, wherein receiving, at a remote location, the vending machine data from the \*mobile\* \*terminal\* over a long range communication circuit comprises receiving the vending machine data over a phone line.
  - 43 A method of communicating, comprising: passing by a vending machine with a \*mobile\* \*terminal\*;

receiving, at the \*mobile\* \*terminal\* from the vending machine, vending machine data relating to the vending machine; subsequently transmitting, wirelessly, over a long range communication circuit the vending machine data...

 $\dots$  45 The method of claim 44, wherein receiving data from at least one other

vending machine comprises receiving the vending machine data from a second \*mobile\* \*terminal\*.

46 The method of claim 45, wherein receiving the vending machine data from a second \*mobile\* \*terminal\* comprises receiving the vending machine data

from a second \*mobile\* \*terminal\* through a module selected from the group

consisting of: a Bluetooth module and an IEEE 802.11 compatible module. 47 The method of claim 45, further comprising determining priority between

the two \*mobile\* terminals as to which \*mobile\* \*terminal\* should receive the

vending machine data from the other.

48 The method of claim 43, wherein subsequently transmitting the vending machine data comprises placing a...  $2 \times 6/3, k/3$ 

6/3,K/3 (Item 2 from file: 349)
DIALOG(R)File 349:PCT FULLTEXT

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00831902 \*\*Image available\*\*

SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR ELECTRONIC DISTRIBUTION OF BENEFITS
SYSTEME ET PROCEDE PERMETTANT DE FOURNIR DE MANIERE ELECTRONIQUE DES
PRESTATIONS

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Patent and Priority Information (Country, Number, Date):

Patent: WO 200165499 A2-A3 20010907 (WO 0165499)
Application: WO 2001US40205 20010301 (PCT/WO US0140205)

Priority Application: US 2000516949 20000301

Designated States:

(Protection type is "patent" unless otherwise stated - for applications prior to 2004)

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(EP) AT BE CH CY DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LU MC NL PT SE TR

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Publication Language: English Filing Language: English

Fulltext Word Count: 10440

Fulltext Availability: Detailed Description Detailed Description

... 1 5 benefits distribution.

Yet another advantage is to provide an efficient means for introducing benefits credits information into a data base utilizing a network \*terminal\* or a \*remote\* \*terminal\* connected to the data base by an Internet connection.

The electronic benefits distribution system of an exemplary embodiment utilizes a central computer accessible via a...7 days, and rail fast pass, e.g., unlimited rail only use for a specified period. The pass type change is initiated at the express \*vending\* \*machine\* 26 and does not require the smart card 30 to be returned to a \*point\* of \*issue\* 12 for exchange.

The benefits system 2 allows a patron 24 to "toggle" between pass types while maintaining an unrestricted cash purse. Card type changes...

## Claim

... the at least one smart card.

- 4 The system for distributing benefits as in claim 1, further comprising:
- a web server connected to the central \*computer\*; and
- a \*remote\* \*terminal\* connected to the web server by means of an internet connection, the \*remote\* \*terminal\* for inputting benefits information. 25
- 5 The system for distributing benefits as in claim 4, further comprising a smart card read/write device connected to...
- ...distributing benefits as in claim 16, wherein step of maintaining a benefits data base includes entering benefits data into the benefits data base utilizing a \*remote\* \*terminal\*.
  - 18 The method of distributing benefits as in claim 17, wherein the \*remote\* \*terminal\* is connected to the main computer by means of an Internet connection.
- 19 The method of distributing benefits as in claim 16, wherein the step ... ?t s6/3,k/4

6/3,K/4 (Item 3 from file: 349)
DIALOG(R)File 349:PCT FULLTEXT
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# 00411544

VARIABLE BURST REMOTE ACCESS APPLICATION MESSAGING METHOD AND APPARATUS DISPOSITIF ET PROCEDE DE MESSAGERIE PRESENTANT UN ACCES CONTINU VARIABLE A DISTANCE

Patent Applicant/Assignee:

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LA DUE Christoph,

Inventor(s):

LA DUE Christoph,

Patent and Priority Information (Country, Number, Date):

Patent: WO 9802004 A2 19980115

Application: WO 97US16176 19970710 (PCT/WO US9716176) Priority Application: US 9621516 19960710; US 96696250 19960813

Designated States:

(Protection type is "patent" unless otherwise stated - for applications prior to 2004)  $\,$ 

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VN YU ZW GH KE LS MW SD SZ UG ZW AM AZ BY KG KZ MD RU TJ TM AT BE CH DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LU MC NL PT SE BF BJ CF CG CI CM GA GN ML MR NE SN TD TG

Publication Language: English Fulltext Word Count: 26317

Fulltext Availability: Detailed Description Claims

## Detailed Description

- ... relates to systems for transmitting and receiving wireless data messages. More specifically, the invention relates to data transmission methodologies and apparatuses for data messaging on \*wireless\* communications networks such as Cellular \*Mobile\* Telephone (CMT), Personal Communication Systems (PCS), Global System for Mobile (GSM), and mobile satellite networks such as Iridium Satellite and Teledisc Satellite communications networks.
  - 2...networks allowing for two-way data messaging, paging, text communication for short messaging, file transfer and Internet access over cellular, personal communications systems (PCS), and \*mobile\* satellite networks.

Examples of \*wireless\* communications networks allowing for two-way communications include cellular mobile radiotelephone (CMR), which is linked to the public switched telephone network (PSTN) and allows for communications between two mobile radiotelephone users or between a \*mobile\* radiotelephone user and a conventional \*phone\*. Conventional CMR networks feature a radio coverage area divided into smaller coverage areas or "cells" using power transmitters and coverage-restricted receivers. The limited coverage...applicable to PCS providing thereby a solution to such aforementioned limitations and demands.

- I 0 The disclosed method and apparatus may also be used with \*mobile\* satellite \*wireless\* networks, and acts as a public-land-mobile-overlay (PLMN) when signaling systems such as signaling system seven (SS7), IS-41, CITT Blue Book and...
- ...at a communicator, for example, a cellular phone, pager, debit phone, or the like, thereby providing a transparent upgrade and enhanced communication capacity on the \*wireless\* communications network. This variable burst \*remote\* access application messaging (VBRAAM) methodology may 1 5 be utilized on wireless communications networks, such as cellular, PCS, or mobile satellite.

  The selected data message destination Message waiting indicators may

The selected data message...destination. Message waiting indicators may be sent back to the user via the SS7 network to the current serving network, and then telayed to the \*mobile\* \*phone\* user via forward channels or reverse voice channels, traffic channels, or control channels. The present invention utilizes the remote access feature control parameter quite uniquely...

- ...module routing ports. For example, during a remote feature access control operation, a currently serving switch reserves and routes a forward voice channel to the \*mobile\* \*unit\* that has activated the \*remote\* feature access control operation. The switch also routes the assigned voice or traffic channel to a sound card or tone generator that is interfaced with...
- ...the present invention MPPC. The MPPC functions as a data protocol converter and data processing terminal that is 1 5 preferably rack mounted at the \*mobile\* switching center (MSC). The MPPC \*unit\* may also function as a point-of-presence (POP) on the Internet world wide web (WVAV). Software and hardware means connect the MPPC unit logically...can be used for a wide variety of data messaging applications.

Accordingly, there is also provided a method for data communication in or for a \*wireless\* communications network where a \*remote\* feature access

control operation utilizes switch means to 1 5 reserve and route selected voice channels or traffic channels in response to the remote feature... forward and reverse voice and traffic channels.

Communicator means are also disclosed, including a communicator apparatus with means for data communication in or for a \*wireless\* communications network where a \*remote\* feature access control operation utilizes switch means to reserve and route selected voice channels or traffic channels in response to the remote feature access control...

...It is an object of the invention to provide both a means and method for real-time metered billing for use in landline, cellular, PCS, \*mobile\* satellite, and other \*wireless\* communications networks.

1 5 It is an object of the invention to provide both a means and method for preventing fraud and cloning in wireless...manner to accomplish a similar purpose.

Accordingly there is provided a method for full-duplex data communication in or for a digital or analog based \*wireless\* communications network, where a \*remote\* feature access control operation utilizes switch means to reserve and route selected voice channels or traffic channels in response to the remote feature access control may be provided configured for communication over a wireless communications network as, for example, a \*mobile\* \*phone\*, a pager, a \*phone\* configured for real-time metered billing and debit messaging and tracking (DEBIT), a meter reader, a communicator for monitoring and control of remote stationary devices, a communicator for monitoring and control of remote mobile devices, and the like. The communicator referably comprises: means for data communication in or for a \*wireless\* communications network where a \*remote\* feature access control operation utilizes switch means to reserve and route selected voice channels or traffic channels in response to the remote feature access control...

...the VBRAAM methodology are shown. The VBRAAM method may be used in or for a wireless communication network such as a cellular network, PCS, or \*mobile\* satellite \*wireless\* communications network, where a \*remote\* feature access control operation, which is a conventional remote feature access control operation in such network, utilizes switch means to reserve and route selected voice...In Fig. IA, a VBRAAM full-duplex messaging pathway and apparatuses are shown, and as previously mentioned, may be applied to any cellular, PCS, or \*mobile\* satellite \*wireless\* communications network. The VBRAAM communicator 100, which may be configured as a

- WO 98/02004 15 . . PCTfUS97/16176

\*mobile\* cellular \*phone\*, pager, PCS communicator \*device\*, Personal Digital Assistant (PDA) device, or the like, sends and receives data messages, such as selected data message 504 on the selected voice or traffic...to 498.

Such application-specific applications such as 484 to 498 include two-way paging, metered billing and debit related data transfer, PDA, home arrest, \*wireless\* gaming and/or gambling, stationary \*remote\* control, and the other shown applications. MPPC 351 is configured to convert any data message it receives from MC 353 into any downlink pathway serving... to Fig. IC, communicator I 00, which may be any communicator device for use in or for a wireless communications network, and configured as a \*mobile\* \*phone\*, a pager, a debit \*phone\* (DEBIT), which is a cellular phone configured for metered real-time billing and debit transactions, a personal communication services PCS device, a Personal Digital Apparatus (PDA), a stationary \*device\*, a \*mobile\* \*device\* control apparatus, or other communicator device operable on a wireless communications network. In this example, the communicator either receives or transmits 219 a selected data...a credit monitoring company, a debit bank center, a stationary device control and monitoring center for meter reading or remote environmental monitoring, for example, a \*mobile\* \*device\* control and monitoring center for tracking vehicles, ships, material flow,

...The VBRAAM messaging center I 0 (MC) is shown having received 356 data message 504 from an application-specific bearer/facilitator such as a stationary \*device\* monitoring facilitator, a \*mobile\* \*device\* monitoring facilitator, debit bank center 120 as shown in Fig. 2, or the like, via the public switched telephone network (PSTN) I 00 and/or...may cause a VBRAAM selected data message 103, to be sent for various purposes, such as two-way communication, paging, control of a stationary or \*mobile\* \*device\*, \*remote\* monitoring, and the like. However, for a great majority of VBRAAM data message packet transmission events, communicator I 00 is programmed to automatically direct registration... deemed registration status events (RSE). However, to the currently serving cellular, PCS system, or mobile satellite network, the RSE is nothing more than a cellular \*phone\* user, for example, requesting \*remote\* feature access operation during a system access origination procedure. Therefore, such utilized RSEs are effectively transparent to the currently serving cellular network. The communicator's...other types of possible selected messages include VBRAAM debit phone encrypted instructions: (a) for single number access; (b) anti-fraud and anti-cloning instructions; (c) \*wireless\* system \*remote\* control; (d) sleeper \*phone\* control; and (e) global positioning reports. If communicator I 00 is also configured as a personnel management tool that includes a fully integrated global positioning...this ten-number code comprises the CIN. This number appears similar to a conventional ten-digit directory number. A person dialing this number ftom another \*mobile\* or from a landline \*phone\* could not reach the communicator I 00 user with the CIN number. 'Me CIN and CSN are used for metered billing and debit identification by ...

...word 131 is preferably a conventionally configured origination packet, with the first word of called address used to send dialed digits entered by a conventional \*mobile\* \*phone\* user, for example. However, with the VBRAAM method, the D word is designated the applicationspecific H word one, or H[I] word 13 1. For...load partitioning, and electrical load management for commercial and residential uses, smart home management systems, security systems, gas and oil well head management and control, \*vending\* \*machine\* management and control, environmental systems \*management\* and control, \*point\*-of-sale data messaging, credit card verification, and the like. The reverse RAAM short messaging aspect of the system is transmitted on the control channels...

## Claim

- 1 A method for data communication in or for a \*wireless\* communications network, where a \*remote\* feature access control operation utilizes switch means to reserve and route selected voice channels or traffic channels in response to the remote feature access control...selected data message includes data for controlling a paging device.
- 37 The method of claim 1, wherein said selected data message includes data for a \*remote\* control of a \*wireless\* system.
- 38 The method of claim 1, wherein said selected data message includes data for a control of a sleeper phone.
- 39 The method of...loading parameter table values for said identification number and said serial number at the MSC.
- 69 A method for data communication in or for a \*wireless\* communications network where a \*remote\* feature access control operation utilizes switch means to reserve and route selected voice channels or traffic channels in response to the remote feature access control...for said identification number and said user serial number at the MSC.
- 92 A communicator apparatus, comprising: means for data communication in or for a \*wireless\* communications network where a \*remote\* feature access control operation utilizes switch

means to reserve and route selected voice channels or traffic channels in response to the remote feature access control...  $2 \times 10^{-5}$  t  $10^{-5}$  channels in response to the remote feature access control...

6/3,K/5 (Item 1 from file: 347)
DIALOG(R)File 347:JAPIO
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07822835 \*\*Image available\*\*
ARTICLE SALES PROMOTION SYSTEM

PUB. NO.: 2003-317136 [JP 2003317136 A] PUBLISHED: November 07, 2003 (20031107)

INVENTOR(s): HIRAMATSU JUNICHI

YORITA KOJI

APPLICANT(s): FUJI ELECTRIC CO LTD

APPL. NO.: 2002-118501 [JP 2002118501] FILED: April 19, 2002 (20020419)

ABSTRACT

...do complicated operation.

SOLUTION: The article sales promotion system which gives the buyer points as additional value corresponding to sales of articles is equipped with \*portable\* \*terminal\* equipment 10 which holds a \*point\* data file as \*management\* information on points by previously performing registration processing by a \*point\* \*management\* device 30 and an automatic \*vending\* \*machine\* 20 which performs addition processing for points corresponding to a solid article for the point data file when the article is sold on condition that the \*portable\* \*terminal\* 10 that the buyer owns is subjected to registration processing.

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Method and apparatus for 05/14 08 700/231 Current XXX Walker, Jay S. et e L 30 œ ជ n

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